

REMARKS

Claims 1-9, 12-14, 16-19, 21-22 and 24-26 are presently pending in the application.

Claims 1, 16, 22, and 24 have been amended to more particularly define the invention.

Claims 1-9, 12-14, 16-19, 21-22 and 24-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Fan, U.S. Patent No. 5,926,168, in view of Hashimoto, U.S. Patent No. 5,554,980. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In exemplary embodiments, the claimed invention is directed to a computer system and method in which a pointing device includes a position indicating button which is actuatable to emit a beam of light and to output a position indication allowing signal. The position on a display screen at which that beam of light contacts the screen is detected, and a cursor is moved to and fixed at the detected position in response to the position indication allowing signal. Thus, the present invention achieves movement and fixing of the cursor in response to the single action of actuation of the position indicating button. Only the single action of actuation of the position indicating button is required to achieve such movement and fixing.

In another exemplary embodiment, the claimed invention is directed to a pointing device for use with a computer system which includes a display screen. The pointing device includes a body member having a position indicator thereon. The position indicator is actuatable to cause the pointing device to point to a position on the display screen, permitting the computer system to move a cursor to the pointed position and fix the cursor at the pointed position. The cursor is movable and fixable by the single action of actuation of the position indicator.

In contrast, in Hashimoto's remote control system, through detection of angular

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motion of remote control unit 1 and actuation of selection switch 9, instructions are issued and operation effected. Hashimoto requires both actions, as shown by the use of the word "and" in the expression "there is realized a remote control system in which, through angular motion ... and the use of the selection switch..." (Emphasis added.) Thus, Hashimoto requires two actions -- angular motion of the remote control unit 1 and actuation of the selection switch.

The Office Action contends that, prior to the above amendments, the independent claims did not claim that a single action is required. It is respectfully submitted that implicitly the claimed operation was the result of a single action.

Nevertheless, as a result of the above amendments, independent claims 1, 16, 22, and 24 explicitly recite that only the single action of actuating the position indicating button is required in order to move and fix the cursor. Thus, these claims distinguish patentably over Fan and Hashimoto and are allowable, as are their dependent claims.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1-9, 12-14, 16-19, 21-22 and 24-26, all the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are allowable, and that the application is in condition for allowance. Such action would be appreciated.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary for allowance in a telephonic or personal interview.

To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 CFR

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§1.136. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency in fees, including extension of time fees, or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully Submitted,

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James N. Dresser, Esq.
Registration No. 22,973

McGinn & Gibb, PLLC
8321 Old Courthouse Road, Suite 200
Vienna, VA 22182-3817
(703) 761-4100
Customer No. 21254